



February 2006

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• **Legislative Update**

Congress has been in recess during most of the month of January.

Introduced:

-On December 20, S. 2148 (Sessions, AL), a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of establishing the **Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor** in Alabama and Georgia.

-On December 15, S. 2114 (Talent-MO), a bill to designate the **Confluence National Heritage Corridor** in Missouri and Illinois.

-On December 14, S. 2102 (Wayne-CO), the **Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area** Technical Amendments Act of 2005.

Scheduled Hearings:

-None to report.

Bills Passed:

-On December 18, House passed H.R. 2099 (McKinney, D-GA), to designate the **Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area** and reauthorize the **Illinois and Michigan National Heritage Corridor**. The bill appropriates funding and recognizes a non-profit management entity for the I&M Corridor. The bill language can be found at <http://thomas.loc.gov>

Markups:

-None to report.

-For list of legislation currently introduced in the 109th Congress, visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/LEG/introbills109.pdf>

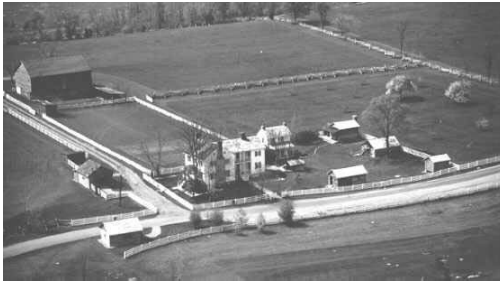
• **This Month in the Heritage Areas**

- About twenty individuals attended a dedication of **eight interpretive panels** along the Justus Trail, Cranberry Township in the **Oil Region National Heritage Area**. The embedded fiberglass panels designed by General Graphics in frames by Pannier tell oil boom stories of sites along the bank of the Allegheny River running eight miles south from Oil City to Franklin. The project was financed in part by Pennsylvania Heritage Parks Program (PHPP) grant combined with the Justus Charitable Trust and the Environmental Challenge Fund of NiSource, Inc. This project also involved the Allegheny Valley Trail Association and the Venango County Historical Society. The bike path passes sites of early oil exploration, large

mansions that oil built and the company town of Reno, site of the large Wolf's Head refinery. For more information on the Oil Region, visit <http://www.oilregion.org>

-The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, non-profit management entity for the **Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District** has purchased a 69-acre property on the New Market battlefield in Shenandoah County, Virginia. The **Buhl farm** is adjacent to the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park in the core area of the battlefield where some of the fiercest fighting occurred. With this acquisition, the Battlefields Foundation has protected 202 acres of core battlefield at New Market. Added to adjacent land owned by the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) at the state historical park, there is now a 493-acre contiguous block of protected core battlefield, the largest contiguous preserved battlefield area in the Shenandoah Valley. By connecting several previously protected areas, the new acquisitions by the Battlefields Foundation will enhance the ability of visitors to understand the full sweep of the Battle of New Market. The Battlefields Foundation will work closely with the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park to interpret the entire battlefield for visitors.

The newly-protected property is also an essential part of the annual New Market re-enactment. Consequently, the re-enactors who helped make the movie "Gods and Generals" helped fund the Battlefields Foundation purchase of the property. Thousands of reenactors



donated their time and energy to the making of the film in return for a commitment of funds from the movie's producers and a share of the box office revenue generated at several national premiers. The re-enactors formed the Roanoke, Virginia-based non-profit **Center for Civil War Living History** to accept and disperse these funds for battlefield preservation. They awarded \$225,000 to the Battlefields Foundation for land acquisition at McDowell (in Highland County)

and New Market. The Buhl farm was purchased in part with these funds. A map of the property may be downloaded from the news area of the Battlefields Foundation website at http://www.shenandoahatwar.org/news/news_list.php

-Ninety Norwegian farmers will visit **Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area** (SSNHA) in March on a sold-out tour of **Iowa farm experiences**. The visitors are part of Felleskjøpet Maskin, a company that represents John Deere equipment dealers in Norway. This same group brought 28 visitors to the region in March 2004. Their excitement about the visit led to 150 people signing up for this year's tour, 60 of which had to be turned away. This tour will now be offered annually to accommodate the demand for this experience. While in the Heritage Area, the visitors will tour several John Deere sites, the National Farm Toy Museum, the Pattison Brothers Grain Terminal, Vesterheim Norwegian Museum, and the National Mississippi River Museum. They will also experience a small, family-owned dairy farm, a beef operation, and a grain farm.

Silos & Smokestacks has partnered with Northwest Iowa Transportation, Inc. (NWIT) to bring international inbound tours to the Heritage Area. NWIT operates over 100 tour departures every year to destinations across the United States and Canada, in addition to several international tours. NWIT specializes in agricultural tours and especially in bringing inbound groups to the United States for agricultural tours. "Of course it is appropriate Norwegians want to come to Iowa to see and understand our agricultural industry up-close,"



said Bob Oliver, Sales and Marketing Director for NWIT. "Iowa has a towering reputation in Europe as being in 'the big league' of United States production agriculture. Farmers the world over are asking the same questions; how to increase output, reduce herbicide and pesticide use and produce safer, cleaner food for animals and people, and they're looking to Iowa farmers for the answers."

In addition to the group from Norway, another group of farmers from France are planning a trip to the Heritage Area. A group of dairy farmers from England are considering an October tour and several other international tours are in the works for 2007. Numerous American groups are also planning travel to the Heritage Area. SSNHA may have up to 50 motorcoach days of travel in the Heritage Area in 2006, nearly doubling the number from last year. For more information, visit <http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org>

-Exelon Nuclear (<http://www.exeloncorp.com>) has allotted almost \$160,000 for the newly established **Schuylkill River Restoration Fund** to provide money for watershed projects along the Schuylkill River in eastern Pennsylvania. The fund is part of a demonstration project for the water diversion program at Exelon Nuclear's Limerick Generating Station and is under the purview of the Delaware River Basin Commission. As part of Limerick's water diversion program, Exelon Nuclear pumps water daily from various water sources in order to operate the plant to minimize environmental impact. The **Schuylkill River National Heritage Area** will oversee the restoration fund, providing the money to organizations seeking to undertake such projects as repairing eroded stream banks or restoring polluted waterways. The demonstration and the associated fund is part of Exelon's commitment to improve the Schuylkill River and show that changes in water supplies will not adversely affect the river. Money from the fund is expected to be available in 2006. Exelon and the Schuylkill River Heritage Area hope other corporations will also contribute to the fund in the future. Grant guidelines are being developed at this time. For more information, visit <http://www.schuylkillriver.org>

-**Blue Ridge National Heritage Area** today announced 20 grants totaling more than \$330,000 in funding designed to preserve and promote Western North Carolina's heritage. After announcing its grants program in September 2005, the Heritage Area received a total of 92 applications. The large number and high quality of the applications meant this grant cycle was highly competitive, said Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Executive Director Penn Dameron. "The Board selected the projects which showed the most promise to both preserve that heritage and stimulate increased economic opportunity in the region." Awards were made in three general categories: **Living Traditions, Marketing, and Product Development**. Awards from \$5,000 to \$38,000 were awarded for film production, post-production and marketing; web-based interpretation and services; trails development; outdoors exhibits; museums development; heritage tourism development and marketing; and a resources inventory. For more information on the awards and grant program, visit the Blue Ridge NHA website at <http://www.blueridgeheritage.com>



-The **History Channel** has awarded the **Augusta Canal National Heritage Area** in Augusta, Georgia with a \$7,601 **Save Our History grant**. Augusta Canal National Heritage Area is one of 26 history organizations that will receive *Save Our History* community preservation grants to fund innovative, educational projects designed to bring communities together, actively engage children in the preservation of their local history and communicate the importance of saving local history for future generations.

The project titled “History is Fantastic” will engage elementary and high school students in research of the century-old celebration of the “Fantastics” 4th of July parade tradition in Augusta. This tradition was a custom for the children in Augusta’s textile mill village, but it faded around the 1950’s. Elementary students will conduct oral histories and collect mementos pertaining to the tradition from elder community residents, while high school students from the nearby fine arts magnet school will video the project, from which a documentary will be created. The project will culminate with the school’s own “Fantastics” parade at the end of the school year, with participating students dressed in their hand-made costumes, and the oral history interviewees serving as “Grand Marshals” of the parade. A traveling exhibit of the student’s work will be created to rotate between community venues, as well as archived copies of the student’s notes, video documentary and recording of oral histories. For more information on the Augusta Canal, visit <http://www.augustacanal.org>

-Historic organizations that are interested in funding for preservation projects developed with local schools or youth groups are encouraged to apply for a 2007 *Save Our History* Grant. Applications will be available beginning February 1, 2006. More information on the program is at <http://www.saveourhistory.com>

● In the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina

-University of Southern Mississippi recently established the **Hurricane Katrina Research Center** in Gulfport, MS to provide researchers and others with a definitive source for information about what some believe was the worst natural disaster to hit the United States. The Katrina Research Center will serve as a repository that collects, preserves and provides physical and virtual access to documentary evidence related to Hurricane Katrina. Faculty and staff are already working to build a comprehensive archive of research materials in a variety of formats, including photographs, oral histories, architectural records, and storm and recovery video, among others.

The Katrina Research Center is actively seeking donations of the aforementioned items and others to house in the center, which will be located in University Libraries. University Librarian Kay Wall, who will serve as the center's first director, believes that the university's establishment of the center will help in providing leverage for external research funding, as well as provide a clearinghouse for Katrina-related information.

The Katrina Research Center will also sponsor traveling exhibits and conferences, as well as provide researchers the opportunity to examine documentation that captures the event from a personal standpoint. It will provide faculty and staff who may be developing research with a vital collection of resources. The storm's impact on Mississippi will be the primary focus of the center, although other information about Katrina's effects on the Gulf South will be available. The Center is currently accepting donations including scientific data; government and planning documents; before-and-after (storm) photos; art; organizational records; literary works; sound recordings; Web site information, including message boards, weblogs, etc.; journals or diaries; and printed items such as flyers or posters. For more information, contact University Libraries at Southern Mississippi at 601.266.4241 or email Katrinaresearchcenter@usm.edu

-APT is currently assembling a **fourth assessment team** to assist with hurricane relief efforts on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and seeking six volunteers the week of Sunday, **February 12 - Sunday, February 19**. Team members should have significant experience with historic structures and should be able to perform structural evaluations of damaged properties. Structural engineers, preservation architects, craftspeople, architectural conservators and contractors are needed. Flexibility and the ability to work within a group in a heavily impacted environment is required. Experience using Microsoft Windows and Office software is also very helpful. For more information, contact Brian Scott Robinson, Vice

President, APT and Professor at Savannah College of Art and Design, 912-525-6940, brobinso@scad.edu

-FEMA, in need of Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) field managers, seeks **Environmental Liaison Officers and Environmental Specialists** with architecture backgrounds or experience. These positions are not Katrina-specific, but greatly enhance FEMA's EHP reservist cadre for on-going and future disaster needs. For information and application guidelines, visit <http://www.fema.gov/ehp/recruitment.shtm> or <http://www.fema.gov/ehp/employopps.shtm> FEMA is also recruiting for immediate hire a GIS project coordinator for Historic Preservation Activities in New Orleans. Questions concerning any of these positions should be directed to: FEMA-EHPKatrinaHelp@dhs.gov

● News from the Alliance of National Heritage Areas

-The **Alliance of National Heritage Areas Annual Meeting** will be held in Washington, DC February 6-8, 2006. The business meeting will be held on Monday the 6th and attended by Alliance members and several NPS staff from the Washington and Regional offices. The Alliance's 8th annual Congressional reception will be held at the Rayburn House Office Building on Monday evening from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. The Alliance's Program Committee will host a roundtable session on Tuesday morning with presentations and discussion on *The Ins and Outs of MGM2, Lackawanna Heritage Trail and Riverfront Greenway Development*, and *Marketing, Branding and Re-branding your National Heritage Area*. To learn more about the Alliance, visit <http://www.nationalheritageareas.org>

● Grants and Awards Opportunities

-Applications are invited for **Federal Save America's Treasures Grants** administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

Save America's Treasures grants are available for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and collections and on nationally



significant historic properties. Grants are awarded through a competitive process and require a dollar-for-dollar, non-Federal match, which can be cash, donated services, or use of

equipment. The minimum grant request for collections projects is \$25,000 Federal share; the minimum grant request for historic property projects is \$125,000 Federal share. The maximum grant request for all projects is \$700,000 Federal share. In 2005, the average Federal grant award to collections was \$179,000, and the average award to historic properties was \$299,000. To learn more about eligible activities, selection criteria, administrative and funding requirements, and to download application submission instructions, visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/treasures/index.htm> Applicants should review the Selection Criteria and Review Criteria carefully and read the Guidelines and Application Instructions in detail before completing the application. Applications must be received by the National Park Service by 5:00 pm EST, **Tuesday, April 18, 2006**.

-The **History Channel** wishes to honor teachers and students across the country who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to local history through their preservation or history education efforts. Applications for the **Save Our History National Honors for Teachers and Students** are due by April 7, 2006. A creative lesson plan, activity and/or

project could win up to \$5,000 in Cash Prizes. For additional information on the *Save Our History* Grant Program or *Save Our History* National Honors Program please visit <http://www.saveourhistory.com>.

● Conferences and Workshops

-**A Trail to Every Classroom Summer Institute**, a professional development program focusing on the promising practices of Place-Based Education and Service-Learning activities in Appalachian Trail communities will be held July 11-15, 2006 at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV. The **Appalachian Trail Conservancy** and the **National Park Service** are partnering with several National Heritage Areas and local communities to promote student understanding of and appreciation for the Appalachian Trail, public lands, and natural and cultural resources as assets within their communities from Georgia to Maine.



Institute sessions will include:

- An overview of the Appalachian Trail, National Heritage Areas and associated teaching resources
 - How place-based education and service-learning can promote academic achievement and community goals
 - Mapping of community assets
 - Curriculum planning
 - Student involvement in project planning
 - Assessment and student reflection of place-based and service-learning activities
 - Program evaluation & sustainability
- Panel discussions and case studies exploring successful strategies from current community projects
 - Networking and resources

Teams of 5, comprised of teachers (5th-12th grade), AT staff or volunteers and community leaders will be selected from Trail and Heritage Area communities. Teachers should be from the same school or district. Grants will be available in the Fall of 2006 for implementation. Meals and lodging will be provided. Limited travel stipends are available. The Institute is offered for graduate credit through Shepherd University. The response to this offering has been overwhelming, so space is limited. Contact Rita Hennessy for more information: rita_hennessy@nps.gov or call 304-535-6170

-The first national **Civic Tourism** conference, March 16-18 in Prescott, Arizona, is filling fast; half the registration spaces are already filled. Civic Tourism is an extension of cultural tourism, heritage tourism, ecotourism, geotourism, and other alternative approaches that position a region's sense of place as the tourism attraction; the focus is on responsible product development, not marketing. This conference will host sessions designed as conversations, where all participants will be able to dig deeply into the issues that frame place-based tourism (i.e., authenticity, carrying capacity, interpretation, the community's role). Presenters will represent a variety of the disciplines that place-based tourism encompasses, including the natural environment, historic preservation, cultural



programs, politics, and the travel industry. Finally, conference attendees will utilize a number of meeting sites throughout Prescott, a small historic mining community in Arizona's mountains.

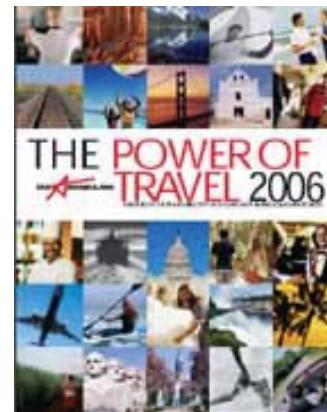
The Civic Tourism website provides additional information including a "Forum" section where people can post questions, suggestions, concerns, and other comments related to place-based tourism. Many communities are facing the same issues as they attempt to use "place" for tourism and economic development (i.e., the Creative Economy). Conference presenters will lead some of the "blog" discussions on the website. The website also provides a sample video about Civic Tourism and provides copies for sale.

The Civic Tourism initiative is supported by funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, and Tourism Cares for Tomorrow, a private foundation. Register for the 2006 Civic Tourism conference and view a list of invited speakers at <http://www.civictourism.org>.

-The **National Preservation Institute**, a nonprofit organization founded in 1980, educates those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of our cultural heritage. The 2006 National Preservation Institute seminar schedule is now available online at <http://www.npi.org>. Details on scholarship funding from the National Endowment for the Arts to attend NPI seminars and a flyer on seminars that focus on "Native American Cultural Resources" are also available. Some seminars can be taken for AIA/CES credit. Registration is recommended six weeks prior to each seminar. You can register for seminars online at <http://www.npi.org/register.html>

● Publications and Resources

-The **Travel Industry of America** has published its annual report, entitled "**The Power of Travel 2006**." The publication discusses industry issues and trends and reports on the economic, cultural and social impacts of travel and tourism in the United States. It provides statistics on the overall impacts of travel and tourism and by industry segment (i.e., cultural and heritage tourism). The publication also provides statistics on emerging niche markets and by service sector. The 32-page report is available from the TIA website at <http://www.tia.org>



-The **National Scenic Byways Program** is redesigning the collateral materials for the America's Byways (R) brand. With addition of new nationally designated America's Byways last September, they are compiling a new map to include more cultural and historical images. Scenic Byways is requesting **high resolution** images that are in the **public domain** of historical and cultural activities, places, and faces that they can use for their new collateral materials. The site, people, activities need to be on or near a Byway (see <http://www.bywaysonline.org> for scenic byways in your state). Scenic Byway's tagline is "Come Closer," and using photos with people experiencing what the byways have to offer would be very helpful.



Scenic Byways needs new images as soon as possible, but would appreciate your images at any time. Please identify the location and the Byway for each image submitted and send to Patricia McNally, Marketing Communications Director at pmcnally@byways.org. All of the byways have byway leaders and marketers who would also welcome your images for their website (<http://www.byways.org>). You can find your local byway contact/s by visiting either

website listed above.

- **Other news**

-GRANTS PROGRAM COORDINATOR--The **Schuylkill River National & State Heritage Area** seeks a highly motivated person for the position of **Grants Program Coordinator**. The Schuylkill River Heritage Area (SRHA), managed by the non-profit Schuylkill River Greenway Association, encompasses five southeastern counties: Schuylkill, Berks, Chester, Montgomery and Philadelphia. As one of eleven PA Heritage Areas and one of twenty-four National Heritage Areas, the goals of the SRHA include: resource conservation & enhancement, education & interpretation, recreation, community revitalization and heritage tourism. Under the supervision of the Executive Director, the Grants Program Coordinator will manage the SRHA Grant Program. Tasks include developing and maintaining multiple heritage partnerships with federal departments, state agencies, county governments, local municipalities, non-profit organizations and the private sector. In particular, the Grants Program Coordinator will work closely administering the program with the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the National Park Service. The Grants Program Coordinator also manages the development of several projects related to the SRHA Grant Program. This includes Schuylkill River Reconnections, a technical assistance program designed to revitalize heritage area communities using community and economic development strategies. The Grants Program Coordinator will also write grant applications on behalf of the Schuylkill River Heritage Area on an as needed basis. The ideal applicant for this position will have at least a Bachelor's Degree in historic preservation, urban planning, economic development, history or other related fields. The position requires strong organization and project management skills; strong verbal and written communication skills for a variety of tasks, including grant writing and project reporting; strong computer skills (minimum: MS Word and Excel); ability to work independently and as a team member in a professional yet relaxed environment. Overall, the candidate's educational and career background should display a keen interest in community revitalization and/or heritage preservation. The Grants Program Coordinator will work from the SRHA office at 140 College Drive in Pottstown, PA on Monday-Friday from 9 am-5 pm. Applicant must have reliable personal transportation for travel throughout the Schuylkill River Heritage Area. Salary is based on experience. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume by mail to: Grants Program Coordinator Position, Schuylkill River Heritage Area, 140 College Drive, Pottstown, PA 19464. No phone calls or walk-ins, please.

-Two positions have opened at the **MTSU Center for Historic Preservation**. Both involve work with the **Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area** and its partners.

-**Coordinator Of Field Projects**--Duties and Responsibilities: Responsible for the performance of a wide and complex variety of tasks regarding the survey, assessment, documentation, and preservation planning of cultural resources within the programs and projects of the Center for Historic Preservation (CHP), a Center of Excellence at Middle Tennessee State University. Administrative tasks pertain to survey and planning project development, management, and coordination responsibilities, and meeting the related needs of the CHP's projects and programs in rural preservation, architectural documentation, and heritage development. The position will support and be involved with the survey and planning needs and architectural documentation needs of the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, which the CHP administers. The successful candidate will have demonstrable skills in architectural



survey, rural preservation planning, National Register of Historic Places nomination, architectural drawing, and be able to interpret and contribute to computer-generated data collections. Qualifications: A Master's Degree in Architectural History, Historic Preservation, or a related field. One -year of professional experience and demonstrated skills in architectural documentation.

To Apply, applicants must file MTSU Online Application for Employment (available on MTSU website), which will include: 1) cover letter of interest; 2) comprehensive resume; 3) three letters of reference; 4) transcripts of all graduate work; and, 5) two examples of professional publications, reports, or documents related to architectural documentation. Attach all materials to your online application for employment. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Deadline for submissions: entered in the online system by **February 21, 2006**.

-Heritage Programming Specialist--Duties and Responsibilities: Design, coordinate, and carry out the daily outreach activities and programming of the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (TCWNHA), which is administered by the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation. The individual will be expected to work with TCWNHA staff and CHP staff, as well as consulting partners of the TCWNHA, on a regular basis. Responsibilities include the preparation of educational materials, the coordination of exhibit and film projects, and the administration of teacher/community workshops and symposiums related to the heritage area. Qualifications: A Master's Degree in Museum Studies, Historic Preservation, or a related field, with at least two years of professional experience as a museum curator/director of education.

Salary range commensurate with education and experience. This is a 30-hour a week, grant-funded position. To Apply: Applicants must complete the MTSU online Application for Employment (available on MTSU website), and include: 1) comprehensive resume; 2) three letters of reference; 3) transcripts of all graduate work; and, 4) three examples of related professional publications, curriculum, and projects. Deadline for submissions: entered in the online system by **February 21, 2006**.

• **For more information on heritage areas, visit our [website](#).**

-If you have heritage area news to share with the 650+ readers who receive this e-bulletin, please feel free to send it to the editor.

Please forward this bulletin to others who may be interested, and encourage them to join our e-bulletin address list.

- Reach the editor at suzanne_copping@contractor.nps.gov
- Reach the National Coordinator of Heritage Areas at Brenda_Barrett@nps.gov
- Past issues available at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/rep/bb.htm>
- To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email to suzanne_copping@contractor.nps.gov